

## THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

A Few Observations Made at the Big Gathering in Chicago, Where the Mighty Theodore Was Powerless Before the Big Steam Roller.

(BY THE JUNIOR EDITOR)

How the Republican clans gathered at Chicago last Monday; how the national committee seated practically all of the Taft delegates where there was any contest; how these delegates elected Root to the temporary chairmanship and later to the permanent chairmanship; how these same delegates gave themselves seats in the convention; how Root was extremely courteous to the "progressives," yielding to them on all minor points, but overriding them in every matter of importance; how Colonel Roosevelt—known otherwise as T. R. Teddy, the Rough Rider, the man on Horseback, the Big Bull Moose, the Man of the Hour, and the big I—rushed to Chicago to stampede the convention; how this same Colonel Roosevelt said first "we've got them licked to a frazzle," then "this is a rank steal," then "the convention does not represent the Republican party," how the convention late Saturday night re-nominated Taft and Sherman on a reactionary platform; how Colonel Roosevelt and the unsated delegates held another convention Saturday night and launched a third party movement, all of you have read in the metropolitan newspapers. So this article need contain only few of the many observations made last week by the Intelligencer man at the Coliseum in Chicago.

The Coliseum is a big hall, capable of seating 11,000 people; but not one fifth of the persons desiring to get into the building were able to make it. Hapoon after hapoon of blue-clad policemen surrounded the hall and it was practically impossible for one not provided with a ticket to get in. Many, many subterfuges were used by individuals and some of them were successful. Tickets were sold at fancy prices, ranging from \$10 to \$100. Most of the grafting was done by the politicians and not by the police. The most popular gag was the one worked by some delegates. The delegate would get his alternate's badge, take it out for a stipulated amount pin it on the coat of the one desirous of gaining admission. When the delegate and the pseudo-alternate had walked into the hall, the delegate would remove the badge from his companion and proceed onward to repeat the process. So many people got in by such ruses that the hall was always jammed. After Tuesday most of the spectators took their lunches with them.

The convention had its pathos, as Colonel Roosevelt can testify; but it had also its humor. Toward the end the steam roller methods were so palpable that when Chairman Root would put a motion he would be greeted with howls of laughter. A negro delegate gave an imitation of a steam roller which delighted the galleries. The dusky brethren, by the way, were prominent at almost every stage of the proceedings. Two of them Saturday, from Alabama, it is said, got into a fight and nearly broke up the convention.

T. R. GOT THE MOST NOISE. It was evident throughout the convention that Colonel Roosevelt was the candidate most pop-

ular with the herd. Whenever his name was mentioned the gallery yelled and yelled. The wildest demonstration of the convention took place Tuesday when a woman began waving a picture of the rough rider. The throng yelled and the woman was rushed to the platform where she waved the picture in front of the mad-dened crowd. State delegations took their banners and paraded around the floor. The people howled and howled until they were tired. Then the steam roller resumed operations. Friday someone raised the cry "We want Teddy" and bedlam was cut loose again. Monday and Tuesday a long string of Roosevelt enthusiasts bearing banners demanding a square deal paraded the streets behind a big band which played "Hot Time" and "Hail! Hail! the Gang's all Here." This crowd kept parading until it was haggard. Saturday a woman tried to raise a demonstration in the Coliseum by waving her arms and screaming "Teddy," but she evoked little enthusiasm, since the followers of Teddy were hoarse.

### HADLEY PROMINENT.

Now the Intelligencer has never thought so very highly of Governor Herbert Hadley and it still believed what it has said about him; but Hadley was one of the big men of the convention. At first he had charge of the Roosevelt forces on the floor and made a splendid fight until the third party move started. It was plain then that he had become disgusted with the big bull moose. He evidently discovered that it was not for progressive principle, but for personal advancement that the former wielder of the big stick was working. It is said that he came out of the conference at the Congress where the third party talk was started angry and disgruntled. At any rate he did no more fighting on the floor. The Roosevelt twenty from Missouri did not vote on the nomination, but they voted with the other sixteen on the adoption of the platform. Hadley, by the way, got the biggest demonstration given to any member of the convention. For a while it seemed that he would receive the nomination, but, of course, the powers were there to nominate none other than Taft and Roosevelt would not have released his delegates to anyone. If Hadley had been nominated or Borah, or Cummins or McGovern or La Follette or Hughes, or Fairbanks, Roosevelt would have bolted just the same. Hadley, it seems, learned this and it is much to his credit that he broke away from Theodore.

### OVATION TO BRYAN.

William Jennings Bryan was present as a reporter and he was one of the most popular men in the hall. He received more cheering than did anyone but Roosevelt. Every time he entered the hall he was greeted with prolonged cheering and at many intermissions the crowd yelled for Bryan. When former Vice-President, Fairbanks was reading the platform Mr. Bryan had to leave the hall to get away to Baltimore. His rising was

the signal for cheering Mr. Fairbanks had to stop reading and even Chairman Root with his gavel could not stop the din. The cheering continued till Mr. Bryan was out of sight. It is an indisputable fact that many Republicans hope to see Bryan the next President and will vote for him if he is nominated. Many prominent ones, some of them delegates, said so openly when they saw that Taft would be the Republican nominee.

### TAFT NOT POPULAR.

That nobody was enthusiastic over Taft was evident at all times. When Nicholas Murray Butler was making his speech seconding the Taft nomination he said impressively: "Who is this man who during the last sixteen years has advanced the United States so much, who by his temperament and conduct has shown himself to be the man most able to hold the presidential office?" He intended the question to be rhetorical. He thought it would be followed by respectful silence which would give him the opportunity of answering "William Howard Taft." But the crowd did not see it that way. When he paused it answered in vociferous accents, "Teddy!"

The only demonstration to amount to anything that the President received was when he was nominated. Then his delegates saw that it was up to them to show some enthusiasm. So they cheered and stood on their chairs and waved banners and started processions around the hall. Another woman saw her opportunity to get her name in the papers. So she stepped to the platform waving a Taft picture. That brought the climax of the shouting and soon the delegates were ready to proceed.

### THE THIRD PARTY.

While it is probable that a national primary would have nominated Roosevelt overwhelmingly it is not probable that this convention would have done it even if all the delegates to which he was entitled had been seated. The count shows that he received 107 votes, while 344 delegates did not vote. These delegates were all instructed for Wm. La Follette received 15 votes from the two Dakotas which would have gone to Roosevelt and Cummins got 7 of the same kind from Idaho. His total strength, therefore was 473. There were 78 contested delegates that went to Taft. Some of them, of course, should not have gone that way; as in the instance of an Arizona county where in the primary Roosevelt received 951 votes to Taft's 11 and still the Taft delegates were seated. But it is reasonable to suppose that in some cases Taft was entitled to the contested delegates. If the committee had given him 12 and Roosevelt 66, Theodore would have had only 539 votes which would not have nominated him. It is the impression that none of the Cummins men or the La Follette men would have shifted to Roosevelt, so that he of the big teeth really had a pretty forlorn hope of being the Republican nominee.

Taft was not really entitled to the nomination it is true, but neither was Roosevelt and it is because he did not get the nomination that T. R. is bolting. His third party move is causing some yelling—the kind of men that like him is the kind that yells on every possible occasion. But it is not getting the big response that the papers supporting him are trying to make the public

believe. Many of the disgruntled Republicans are realizing that Roosevelt is merely a self-seeking four-flusher and they are looking with hope to Baltimore.

One of the biggest men in the Illinois delegation said to the Intelligencer man Saturday night: "I am thoroughly disgusted with the Republican party and I don't think I will ever vote the Republican ticket again. But I don't care very much for Teddy either and I am not going to vote for him. If the Democrats nominate Bryan I will vote for him. If they nominate anybody else, except perhaps Wilson, I will vote the Prohibition ticket."

An alternate from Idaho voiced the sentiments of many when he said: "If Bryan is nominated he will be elected easily. If Clark is nominated there will be a big fight between him and Roosevelt. In that case I believe that four years from now there will be no Democratic or Republican party. There will be just Progressives and Conservatives."

Really, if the Democrats are wise they will nominate a progressive on a progressive platform. Then there will be no need of a third party except for those who think that Theodore Roosevelt is the only living person who is fit to be the head of the nation. In years past the Democratic party has advocated just the principles for the over-riding of which the progressives are now leaving the Republican party. The truly progressives will come to the Democrats unless the same forces which rolled at Chicago will roll at Baltimore. The followers of the big monarch will fall with him.

The movement which Roosevelt started is aimed to start not a progressive party, but a Roosevelt party. As a matter of fact, most of the progressives differ from the stand-patters mainly in the matter of the tariff. Now Roosevelt professes to be a progressive; but what is his tariff record? He never once touched the question while he was in office and he has carefully left it out of his speeches during his campaign this spring. He wants not a better tariff, but just his own election. At present it seems that he will continue his residence at Oyster Bay for several years.

### LOOKING AHEAD.

It is now up to the Democrats. They have a chance now to sail right into power and stay there indefinitely. At Baltimore the fight this week will be a strenuous one. The men who were behind the move which gave Taft the nomination are behind a somewhat similar move at Baltimore. They want nominated a man upon whom the big interests can rely. They want a platform which will be conservative. They will work just as hard at Baltimore as they did here—probably harder, for they have more of a fight on their hands.

The writer has always admired Mr. Bryan, but never before this time picked him as a winner. Until last week the writer thought that it would be a calamity for the Democratic party to nominate the Nebraskan and was uneasy because the signs showed that Mr. Bryan was in a recipient mood concerning the nomination and that neither Mr. Clark nor Mr. Wilson was likely to show up with enough votes to get the prize. But after seeing the great Republican schism, after seeing Mr. Bryan cheered and cheered in the sincerest fashion by longtime Republicans and after hearing in personal conversation many

many progressive Republicans expressing their hope to vote for Mr. Bryan, he is afraid that the Baltimore convention will nominate somebody else. Last weeks scenes at the Coliseum have changed him from one who personally admired Mr. Bryan as a model citizen, a brilliant orator, but not a practical presidential candidate to one who thinks Mr. Bryan is the Moses who can lead the Democratic party to the promised land. He is ready to yell for Bryan till his chest is sore and his vocal chords numb. Of course he will not be downhearted if Clark or Wilson is the candidate. Either will stand a good show of winning if his platform is right and he makes the proper kind of campaign speech. But if Bryan is nominated he can go back to Lincoln, Nebraska, and begin work on his inaugural address.

The Nebraskan, too, stands a pretty good chance of getting the nomination. Neither Clark nor Wilson will have enough votes to be nominated on the first ballot and Harmon is preposterous. Bryan, so the Intelligencer man has it from a pretty reliable source will make a speech. Well, you know what happened in 1896.

But from an angle of almost any degree, this looks like a Democratic year. Aspirants for the postmaster's office, get busy.

### DISTINGUISHED PARTY HERE

Entertained at Greystone Park by Capt. and Mrs. Todhunter.

The Old Santa Fe trail is bringing many distinguished visitors to Lexington this summer. Wednesday evening about 6:30 a party headed by Mrs. H. L. Mann, Vice-President General of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution arrived in Lexington on their way over the Old Trail placing additional markers. Other members of the party were Mrs. Gilbert Clark, Mrs. Milton Welsh, Mrs. Mark S. Salisbury, Mrs. Jones H. Austin, Miss Elizabeth Butler Gentry, Miss Mary Gentry, Mrs. John Van Brunt, all of Kansas City. Also Mr. and Mrs. Triplett and W. Z. Hickman, of Independence, and Frank A. Davis, Secretary National Old Trails Association, of Herrington, Kansas.

### Daniel Snider Dead.

Daniel Snider, an old pioneer of this county, died Wednesday at the home of his son, John A. Snider, in Fayette, Mo., of old age and general debility. Mr. Snider was born in Virginia, June 23, 1825, and was 87 years old last Sunday. He came to this state in 1868, and first settled in Carroll county. He afterwards moved to Lafayette county where he lived until a few years ago.

He is survived by three children who are as follows: Mrs. Ida Foster, of this city, John A. Snider, of Fayette, Mo., and Newton E. Snider, of Higginsville.

### Albert Duncan Drowned.

Wednesday evening Albert Duncan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Duncan, drowned while swimming in the Sni near the covered bridge.

D. T. Boggie went to Odessa yesterday on business.

Miss Edna Stramke went to Kansas City yesterday for a visit.

J. R. Potts went to Kansas City yesterday on business.

### OCEAN TO OCEAN HIGHWAY

Organization Car Here Accompanied by Arizona Cyclone.

The National Old Trails Road Association car arrived here Monday about 2:30 in charge of Col. Dell M. Potter of Clifton, Arizona, known as the Arizona cyclone; Bert C. Smith, reporter for the Los Angeles Times; Judge J. M. Lowe of Kansas City, president of the Missouri Old Trails Road Association, and the driver, John Zak.

After the party had refreshed the inner man, a crowd assembled in the court house, where speeches were made by Judge Lowe and Col. Potter, boosting the National Highway idea. E. M. Taubman, president of the local association, presided at the meeting and introduced the speakers.

The purpose of this car's trip is to organize local association and to get the signature of every man, woman and child to a petition for the purpose of presenting to congress at the next session that Federal aid may be secured for the building of this Ocean to Ocean Highway.

Approximately 100,000 members have been secured up to this point. The annual dues are \$1.00, half of which is retained by the local association and the other half is sent to the National association.

It would be almost impossible to estimate in dollars and cents the benefits which would accrue from having the National Highway pass through Lexington on east following the Old Santa Fe Trail to the Cumberland pike and on to the Atlantic. It is not far distant when this highway will be a fact. The organizers of the Old Trails Road Association are going about it in a business like way. They will go to Washington when congress meets with such a membership that no congressman from the region which this old trail traverses dare vote against an appropriation for the construction of this highway. It is the membership that will count. Every locality must furnish its quota and work with a will for the securing of this highway, one of the grandest undertakings of this generation.

### Y. M. C. Elects Officers.

The semi-annual meeting of the Young Men's Club for the election of officers was held Wednesday night in the Y. M. C. club. There were addresses by W. S. Peacock, C. L. Ristine, J. O. Coffin and Clyde Wright. The refreshments consisted of cantaloupe, sundae, angel food cake, and lemonade. The following officers were elected: C. C. Knipe, President; W. H. Cohrs, Vice-President; Harry Barron, 2nd Vice-President; Serat Wiley, Secretary; R. L. Britt, Treasurer.

Mrs. C. M. Tomkins of Kansas City is visiting relatives in this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Marshall announce the birth of a son, Tuesday, June 25, 1912.

M. Ladson went to Kansas City yesterday on business.

J. A. Wilson went to Higginsville yesterday on business.

Miss Barbara Moore went to Green Ridge yesterday to attend the Christian Endeavor Convention of the Christian Church.

Mrs. T. J. Johns of Charleston, Mo., arrived Wednesday evening to visit Mrs. J. F. Forster.

Prof. J. C. Shelton went to Malta Bend yesterday morning on business.